

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
220 E Market St
Meeker, CO 81641**

**Section 390
Categorical Exclusion for
Oil and Gas Development**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-110-2011-0120-CX

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: COC-60731

PROJECT NAME: Williams' request to extend use of centralized dewatering facility on the RGU 22-27-198 well pad

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T1S, R98W, Sec.27

APPLICANT: Williams Production RMT

BACKGROUND:

Three Applications for Permits to Drill (APDs) for the Ryan Gulch Unit (RGU) 22-27-198 well pad were received 7/8/2008 and permits were issued 12/12/2008. The [CO-110-2008-211-EA](#) was prepared and a Finding of No Significant Impact determined (12/12/2008). The wells were drilled and fully producing by 7/2/2009. Construction of the dewatering plant was approved 4/20/2010 for one year.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

Williams Production RMT (Williams) requests authorization to continue use of the dewatering plant located on the RGU 22-27-198 well pad (See Attachment 1) for three years. No additional surface disturbance would be required keep the centrally-located dewatering facility in operation.

Decision to be Made: The BLM will decide whether or not to authorize the continued use of the existing dewatering facilities on the RGU 27-27-198 well pad, and if so, under what conditions.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3) the following plan:

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Number/Page: Page 2-5

Decision Language: “Make federal oil and gas resources available for leasing and development in a manner that provides reasonable protection for other resource values.”

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-58) prescribed five categorical exclusions (CX) for activities whose purpose is for the exploration of oil or gas.

The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under the Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act, #1: *“Individual surface disturbances of less than five acres so long as the total surface disturbance on the lease is not greater than 150 acres and site-specific analysis in a document prepared pursuant to the NEPA has been previously completed.”*

Documentation

The BLM NEPA Handbook (H-1790-1) provides specific instructions for using this CX.

1) Is surface disturbance associated with the Proposed Action less than five acres?

Yes. No additional surface disturbance beyond that which has been analyzed by the CO-110-2008-0211-EA would result on the RGU 22-27-198 well pad.

2) Is there less than 150 acres of surface disturbance, including the Proposed Action, on the entire leasehold?

Yes. Two acres of existing disturbance are visible on the 1,409 lease COC-60731.

3) Is the Proposed Action within the boundaries of an area included in a site-specific NEPA document? (The NEPA document must have analyzed the exploration and/or development of oil and gas (not just leasing) and the action/activity being considered must be within the boundaries of the area analyzed in the environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS). The NEPA document need not have addressed the specific permit or application being considered.)

Yes. A site-specific NEPA documents has been prepared (CO-110-2008-0211-EA) for oil and gas operations on the proposed location, and the analysis of the proposals to drill considered storage of excess soil and spoil materials and management of exploration and production materials, as well as solid and hazardous wastes. The CO-110-2008-0211-EA was signed 12/12/2008.

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

The Proposed Action was presented to, and reviewed by, the White River Field Office interdisciplinary team on 5/17/2011. A list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the White River Field Office.

The table below lists resource specialists who provided additional remarks concerning cultural resources and special status species.

Name	Title	Resource	Date
Michael Selle	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns	6/23/2011
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Wildlife Species	6/14/2011
Zoe Miller	Ecologist	Special Status Plant Species	5/26/2011

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: The well pad location has been inventoried at the Class III (100 percent pedestrian) by all or portions of two inventories (Conner and Davenport 2006 compliance dated 2/28/2007; Highland 2005 compliance dated 6/29/2005) with no cultural resources identified at the well pad location.

Native American Religious Concerns: No Native American Religious Concerns are known in the area, and none have been noted by Northern Ute tribal authorities. Should recommended inventories or future consultations with Tribal authorities reveal the existence of such sensitive properties, appropriate mitigation and/or protection measures may be undertaken.

Paleontological Resources: The proposed dewatering facility is located in an area generally mapped as the Uinta Formation (Tweto 1979) which the BLM WRFO has classified as a PFYC 4/5 formation meaning it is known to produce scientifically noteworthy fossil resources (c.f. Armstrong and Wolny 1989). If for some unexpected reason it becomes necessary to excavate into the underlying sedimentary rock formation during operation of the plant there is a potential to impact scientifically noteworthy fossil resources.

Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species: There are no additional wildlife-related issues or concerns associated with the Proposed Action. All wildlife issues were adequately addressed in the original environmental assessment. Extending use of the dewatering facility is not anticipated to have any foreseeable impacts to terrestrial or aquatic wildlife populations or associated habitats. See revised mitigation regarding migratory birds below.

Threatened and Endangered Plant Species: No special status plant species concerns.

REFERENCES CITED:

Armstrong, Harley J., and David G. Wolny
1989 Paleontological Resources of Northwest Colorado: A Regional Analysis. Museum of Western Colorado, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Conner Carl E., and Barbara J. Davenport

- 2006 Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Report for Twenty-on Proposed Ryan Gulch Well Locations and Related Access Routes in Rio Blanco County, Colorado for Williams Production RMT. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado. (07-11-07: SHPO #RB.LM.R999)

Highland, Steven

- 2005 A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory for the proposed Ryan Gulch 2-D Seismic Project, Rio Blanco County, Colorado. TRC Mariah Associates Inc., Salt Lake City, Utah. (05-22-01B: SHPO # rb.lm.r1131

Tweto, Ogden

- 1979 Geologic Map of Colorado. United States Geologic Survey, Department of the Interior, Reston, Virginia.

MITIGATION MEASURES:

1. Terrestrial Wildlife: The operator shall prevent use by migratory birds of reserve pits that store or are expected to store fluids which may pose a risk to such birds (e.g., migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds and raptors) during completion and after completion activities have ceased. Methods may include netting or other alternative methods that effectively prevent use and that meet BLM approval. It will be the responsibility of the operator to notify the BLM of the method that will be used to prevent use two weeks prior to when completion activities are expected to begin. The BLM approved method will be applied within 24 hours after completion.
2. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. Williams will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. Williams, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.
3. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), Williams must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), Williams must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
4. Williams is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for

collecting artifacts. If archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, the Williams must immediately contact the appropriate BLM representative.

5. If any paleontological resources are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, Williams or any of his agents must stop work immediately at that site, immediately contact the BLM Paleontology Coordinator, and make every effort to protect the site from further impacts, including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The BLM or designated paleontologist will evaluate the discovery and take action to protect or remove the resource within 10 working days. Within 10 days, the operator will be allowed to continue construction through the site, or will be given the choice of either (a) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for stabilizing the fossil resource in place and avoiding further disturbance to the fossil resource, or (b) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for mitigating impacts to the fossil resource prior to continuing construction through the project area.
6. Any excavations into the underlying native sedimentary stone must be monitored by a permitted paleontologist. The monitoring paleontologist must be present before the start of excavations that may impact bedrock.
7. Williams is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with Williams operations that they will be subject to prosecution for disturbing or collecting vertebrate fossils, collecting large amounts of petrified wood (over 25lbs./day, up to 250lbs./year), or collecting fossils for commercial purposes on public lands. If any paleontological resources are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, Williams must immediately contact the appropriate BLM representative.
8. All lessees and/or operators and right-of-way holders shall comply with all federal, state and/or local laws, rules, and regulations, including but not limited to onshore orders and notices to lessees, addressing the emission of and/or the handling, use, and release of any substance that poses a risk of harm to human health or the environment.
9. Where required by law or regulation to develop a plan for the prevention of releases or the recovery of a release of any substance that poses a risk of harm to human health or the environment, provide a current copy of said plan to the BLM WRFO.
10. Through all phases of oil and gas exploration, development, and production, all lessees and/or operators and holders of rights-of-way shall employ, maintain, and periodically update to the best available technology(s) aimed at reducing: 1) emissions, 2) fresh water use, and 3) utilization, production, and release of hazardous material.
11. All substances that pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment shall be stored in appropriate containers. Fluids that pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment, including but not limited to produced water, shall be stored in appropriate containers and in secondary containment systems at 110 percent of the largest vessel's capacity. Secondary

fluid containment systems, including but not limited to tank batteries shall be lined with a minimum 24 mil impermeable liner.

12. Construction sites and all facilities shall be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times; waste materials shall be disposed of promptly at an appropriate waste disposal site. "Waste" means all discarded matter including, but not limited to, human waste, trash, garbage, refuse, oil drums, petroleum products, ashes, and equipment.
13. As a reasonable and prudent lessee/operator in the oil and gas industry, acting in good faith, all lessees/operators and right-of-way holders will report all emissions or releases that may pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment, regardless of a substance's status as exempt or nonexempt and regardless of fault, to the BLM WRFO (970) 878-3800.
14. As a reasonable and prudent lessees/operator and/or right-of-way holder in the oil and gas industry, acting in good faith, all lessees/operators and right-of-way holders will provide for the immediate clean-up and testing of air, water (surface and/or ground) and soils contaminated by the emission or release of any substance that may pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment, regardless of that substance's status as exempt or non-exempt. Where the lessee/operator or right-of-way holder fails, refuses or neglects to provide for the immediate clean-up and testing of air, water (surface and/or ground) and soils contaminated by the emission or release of any quantity of a substance that poses a risk of harm to human health or the environment, the BLM WRFO may take measures to clean-up and test air, water (surface and/or ground) and soils at the lessee/operator's expense. Such action will not relieve the lessee/operator of any liability or responsibility.
15. With the acceptance of this authorization, the commencement of operations under this authorization, or within thirty calendar days from the issuance of this authorization, whichever occurs first, and during the life of the pipeline, the right-of-way holder and the lessee/operator, and through the right-of-way holder and lessee/operator, its agents, employees, subcontractors, successors and assigns, stipulate and agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the United States Government, its agencies, and employees from all liability associated with the emission or release of substances that pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment.

Mitigation brought forward from the 2008-0211-EA is as follows:

Timing Limitation

16. Because of potential cumulative local and regional impacts to big game dispersal and seasonal movement patterns as a result of increased oil and gas activity in areas identified as critical big game habitat, as directed by the White River ROD/RMP (1997) the stipulation developed specifically for big game critical winter habitat will apply. Because of the proximity of the proposed well pad location for well 22-27-198 to areas classified as deer critical winter habitat, and because of potential cumulative local and regional impacts to big game dispersal and seasonal movement patterns as a result of increased oil and gas activity in areas identified as critical big game habitat, and as directed by the White River ROD/RMP (1997) the stipulation developed specifically for big game critical winter habitat will apply. As such, no development activity is allowed from January 1 through April 30 for well pad

location 22-27-198 and the associated wells. Development is allowed from May 1 through December 31. This stipulation applies to all surface disturbing activities related to this federal action.

17. If future raptor inventory surveys document the occurrence of one or more breeding pairs of T & E, BLM-sensitive or BLM non-sensitive raptors nesting within the project area, future soil-disturbing activities, drilling, well completion, work-over and reclamation activities associated with either well pad 22-27-198 or 43-21-198 will be subject to the White River ROD/RMP approved timing limitation stipulation TL-01, which disallows disruptive activity (i.e., surface disturbing, and drilling and completion-related activities) within ½ mile of listed and BLM-sensitive raptor species and ¼ mile (i.e., TL-04) of non-listed non-sensitive BLM raptor nests from February 1 through August 15.

Access Roads

18. All roads shall be constructed and maintained by Williams per “Gold Book” standards.
19. All access roads will be maintained according to BLM Manual Section 9113 standards for road shape and drainage features at all times during construction, drilling, completion and production of the wells.

Air Quality

20. All activities would be required to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal air quality laws, statutes, regulations, standards, and implementation plans. Documentation of this compliance would be provided to the BLM, if requested.
21. All access roads will be treated with water and/or a dust suppressant during construction and drilling activities so that there is not a visible dust trail behind vehicles. All vehicles will abide by company or public speed restrictions during all activities. If water is used as a dust suppressant, there should be no traces of oil or solvents in water. Only water needed for abating dust should be applied; dust abatement should not be used as a water disposal option under any circumstances.

Hazardous and Solid Wastes

22. All pits will be lined with at least a 12 mil liner. Pits containing fluids must not be breached (cut) and pit fluids must be removed or solidified before backfilling. Pits would be allowed to air dry for one four season cycle. The use of chemicals to aid in fluid evaporation, stabilization, or solidification must have prior BLM approval. If there are still fluids in the reserve pit after one four season cycle following the drilling of the approved six wells (regardless of if additional wells are planned), the operator will close the pits and submit via sundry notice the location for disposal or use of any pit fluids removed.

Reclamation

23. All permanent (onsite for six [6] months or longer) structures, facilities and equipment placed onsite shall be painted Munsell Soil Color Chart Juniper Green or equivalent within six months of installation.

24. For all disturbed locations, access roads and pipelines: promptly revegetate all disturbed areas not necessary for production including roadside and pad cut and fill slopes with Native Seed mix #3. Seed mixture rates are Pure Live Seed (PLS) pounds per acre. Drill seeding is the preferred method of application.

Native Seed Mix #3		
Western wheatgrass (Rosanna)	2	Gravelly 10"-14", Pinyon/Juniper Woodland, Stony Foothills, 147 (Mountain Mahogany)/ Rolling Loam
Bluebunch wheatgrass (Whitmar)	2	
Needle and thread	1	
Indian ricegrass (Rimrock)	2	
Fourwing saltbush (Wytana, or VNS, Northern latitude)	1	
Utah sweetvetch	1	
Alternates, American vetch, globemallow		

25. All seed tags will be submitted to the designated NRS within 24 hours from the time the seeding activities have ended via Sundry Notice. The sundry will include the well or well pad number associated with the seeding activity, the name of the contractor that performed the work, his or her phone number, an estimate of the total acres seeded, and the date the seed was applied.

Invasive and Noxious Weeds

26. The operator will be required to monitor the project area for the life of the project and eradicate all noxious and invasive species which occur on site using materials and methods approved in advance by the Authorized Officer.

Wildlife

27. Well maintenance operations will also be reported to the designated NRS within 24 hours from the time the work-over rig moves on to the location and when the work-over rig moves off the location.
28. All archaeological sites potentially eligible for NRHP listing must be avoided and protected from all development impacts. This includes, but is not limited to, any access road maintenance or upgrades. Construction activities shall avoid any potentially eligible archaeological sites by no less than 100 meters, and prehistoric wooden structures and other sensitive architecture, including 5RB5904, by no less than 308 meters.

Water Resources

29. An estimate of the volumes of water that may be used for construction, drilling, completion, fracing and dust abatement will be provided to the WRFO hydrologist by well and by pad.
30. As per Onshore Order #1 requirements, the operator will submit an amendment to currently-approved Surface Use Plans via Sundry Notice Form 3160-5 before construction activities begin detailing:
- The source of all water used for construction, drilling, completion and fracing operations
 - Any water haul routes that may be used

- Municipal water provider, the permit number or a copy of the water right permit being use for each water source http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/oil_and_gas/Onshore_Order_no1.html, section 2e for more information)

MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE: On-going compliance inspections and monitoring of drilling, production, and post-production activities will be conducted by White River Field Office staff during construction of well pads, access roads, and pipelines. Specific mitigation developed in the associated Categorical Exclusion and the lease terms and conditions will be followed. The Operator will be notified of compliance related issues in writing, and depending on the nature of the issue(s), will be provided 30 days to resolve such issues.

NAME OF PREPARER: Christina J. Barlow

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Heather Sauls

COMPLIANCE WITH NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with Section 390 of the Energy Policy.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:



Field Manager

DATE SIGNED:

06/30/2011

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment 1. Location Map

Attachment 1. Location Map



**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
220 E Market St
Meeker, CO 81641**

DECISION

PROJECT NAME: Williams' request to extend use of centralized dewatering facility on the RGU 22-27-198 well pad

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-2011-0120-CX

DECISION

It is my decision to implement the Proposed Action, as mitigated in DOI-BLM-CO-2011-0120-CX, authorizing the continued operation and maintenance of the dewatering facilities located on the RGU 27-27-198 well pad for a period of three years.

Mitigation Measures

1. Terrestrial Wildlife: The operator shall prevent use by migratory birds of reserve pits that store or are expected to store fluids which may pose a risk to such birds (e.g., migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds and raptors) during completion and after completion activities have ceased. Methods may include netting or other alternative methods that effectively prevent use and that meet BLM approval. It will be the responsibility of the operator to notify the BLM of the method that will be used to prevent use two weeks prior to when completion activities are expected to begin. The BLM approved method will be applied within 24 hours after completion.
2. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. Williams will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. Williams, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.

3. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), Williams must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), Williams must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
4. Williams is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts. If archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, the Williams must immediately contact the appropriate BLM representative.
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6. Any excavations into the underlying native sedimentary stone must be monitored by a permitted paleontologist. The monitoring paleontologist must be present before the start of excavations that may impact bedrock.
7. Williams is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with Williams operations that they will be subject to prosecution for disturbing or collecting vertebrate fossils, collecting large amounts of petrified wood (over 25lbs./day, up to 250lbs./year), or collecting fossils for commercial purposes on public lands. If any paleontological resources are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, Williams must immediately contact the appropriate BLM representative.
8. All lessees and/or operators and right-of-way holders shall comply with all federal, state and/or local laws, rules, and regulations, including but not limited to onshore orders and notices to lessees, addressing the emission of and/or the handling, use, and release of any substance that poses a risk of harm to human health or the environment.
9. Where required by law or regulation to develop a plan for the prevention of releases or the recovery of a release of any substance that poses a risk of harm to human health or the environment, provide a current copy of said plan to the BLM WRFO.

10. Through all phases of oil and gas exploration, development, and production, all lessees and/or operators and holders of rights-of-way shall employ, maintain, and periodically update to the best available technology(s) aimed at reducing: 1) emissions, 2) fresh water use, and 3) utilization, production, and release of hazardous material.
11. All substances that pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment shall be stored in appropriate containers. Fluids that pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment, including but not limited to produced water, shall be stored in appropriate containers and in secondary containment systems at 110% of the largest vessel's capacity. Secondary fluid containment systems, including but not limited to tank batteries shall be lined with a minimum 24 mil impermeable liner.
12. Construction sites and all facilities shall be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times; waste materials shall be disposed of promptly at an appropriate waste disposal site. "Waste" means all discarded matter including, but not limited to, human waste, trash, garbage, refuse, oil drums, petroleum products, ashes, and equipment.
13. As a reasonable and prudent lessee/operator in the oil and gas industry, acting in good faith, all lessees/operators and right-of-way holders will report all emissions or releases that may pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment, regardless of a substance's status as exempt or nonexempt and regardless of fault, to the BLM WRFO (970) 878-3800.
14. As a reasonable and prudent lessees/operator and/or right-of-way holder in the oil and gas industry, acting in good faith, all lessees/operators and right-of-way holders will provide for the immediate clean-up and testing of air, water (surface and/or ground) and soils contaminated by the emission or release of any substance that may pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment, regardless of that substance's status as exempt or non-exempt. Where the lessee/operator or right-of-way holder fails, refuses or neglects to provide for the immediate clean-up and testing of air, water (surface and/or ground) and soils contaminated by the emission or release of any quantity of a substance that poses a risk of harm to human health or the environment, the BLM WRFO may take measures to clean-up and test air, water (surface and/or ground) and soils at the lessee/operator's expense. Such action will not relieve the lessee/operator of any liability or responsibility.
15. With the acceptance of this authorization, the commencement of operations under this authorization, or within thirty calendar days from the issuance of this authorization, whichever occurs first, and during the life of the pipeline, the right-of-way holder and the lessee/operator, and through the right-of-way holder and lessee/operator, its agents, employees, subcontractors, successors and assigns, stipulate and agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the United States Government, its agencies, and employees from all liability associated with the emission or release of substances that pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment.

Mitigation brought forward from the 2008-0211-EA is as follows:

Timing Limitation

16. Because of potential cumulative local and regional impacts to big game dispersal and seasonal movement patterns as a result of increased oil and gas activity in areas identified as

critical big game habitat, as directed by the White River ROD/RMP (1997) the stipulation developed specifically for big game critical winter habitat will apply. Because of the proximity of the proposed well pad location for well 22-27-198 to areas classified as deer critical winter habitat, and because of potential cumulative local and regional impacts to big game dispersal and seasonal movement patterns as a result of increased oil and gas activity in areas identified as critical big game habitat, and as directed by the White River ROD/RMP (1997) the stipulation developed specifically for big game critical winter habitat will apply. As such, no development activity is allowed from January 1 through April 30 for well pad location 22-27-198 and the associated wells. Development is allowed from May 1 through December 31. This stipulation applies to all surface disturbing activities related to this federal action.

17. If future raptor inventory surveys document the occurrence of one or more breeding pairs of T & E, BLM-sensitive or BLM non-sensitive raptors nesting within the project area, future soil-disturbing activities, drilling, well completion, work-over and reclamation activities associated with either well pad 22-27-198 or 43-21-198 will be subject to the White River ROD/RMP approved timing limitation stipulation TL-01, which disallows disruptive activity (i.e., surface disturbing, and drilling and completion-related activities) within ½ mile of listed and BLM-sensitive raptor species and ¼ mile (i.e., TL-04) of non-listed non-sensitive BLM raptor nests from February 1 through August 15.

Access Roads

18. All roads shall be constructed and maintained by Williams per “Gold Book” standards.
19. All access roads will be maintained according to BLM Manual Section 9113 standards for road shape and drainage features at all times during construction, drilling, completion and production of the wells.

Air Quality

20. All activities would be required to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal air quality laws, statutes, regulations, standards, and implementation plans. Documentation of this compliance would be provided to the BLM, if requested.
21. All access roads will be treated with water and/or a dust suppressant during construction and drilling activities so that there is not a visible dust trail behind vehicles. All vehicles will abide by company or public speed restrictions during all activities. If water is used as a dust suppressant, there should be no traces of oil or solvents in water. Only water needed for abating dust should be applied; dust abatement should not be used as a water disposal option under any circumstances.

Hazardous and Solid Wastes

22. All pits will be lined with at least a 12 mil liner. Pits containing fluids must not be breached (cut) and pit fluids must be removed or solidified before backfilling. Pits would be allowed to air dry for one four season cycle. The use of chemicals to aid in fluid evaporation, stabilization, or solidification must have prior BLM approval. If there are still fluids in the reserve pit after one four season cycle following the drilling of the approved six wells

(regardless of if additional wells are planned), the operator will close the pits and submit via sundry notice the location for disposal or use of any pit fluids removed.

Reclamation

23. All permanent (onsite for six [6] months or longer) structures, facilities and equipment placed onsite shall be painted Munsell Soil Color Chart Juniper Green or equivalent within six months of installation.
24. For all disturbed locations, access roads and pipelines: promptly revegetate all disturbed areas not necessary for production including roadside and pad cut and fill slopes with Native Seed mix #3. Seed mixture rates are Pure Live Seed (PLS) pounds per acre. Drill seeding is the preferred method of application.

Native Seed Mix #3		
Western wheatgrass (Rosanna)	2	Gravelly 10"-14", Pinyon/Juniper Woodland, Stony Foothills, 147 (Mountain Mahogany)/ Rolling Loam
Bluebunch wheatgrass (Whitmar)	2	
Needle and thread	1	
Indian ricegrass (Rimrock)	2	
Fourwing saltbush (Wytana, or VNS, Northern latitude)	1	
Utah sweetvetch	1	
Alternates, American vetch, globemallow		

25. All seed tags will be submitted to the designated NRS within 24 hours from the time the seeding activities have ended via Sundry Notice. The sundry will include the well or well pad number associated with the seeding activity, the name of the contractor that performed the work, his or her phone number, an estimate of the total acres seeded, and the date the seed was applied.

Invasive and Noxious Weeds

26. The operator will be required to monitor the project area for the life of the project and eradicate all noxious and invasive species which occur on site using materials and methods approved in advance by the Authorized Officer.

Wildlife

27. Well maintenance operations will also be reported to the designated NRS within 24 hours from the time the work-over rig moves on to the location and when the work-over rig moves off the location.
28. All archaeological sites potentially eligible for NRHP listing must be avoided and protected from all development impacts. This includes, but is not limited to, any access road maintenance or upgrades. Construction activities shall avoid any potentially eligible archaeological sites by no less than 100 meters, and prehistoric wooden structures and other sensitive architecture, including 5RB5904, by no less than 308 meters.

Water Resources

29. An estimate of the volumes of water that may be used for construction, drilling, completion, fracing and dust abatement will be provided to the WRFO hydrologist by well and by pad.

30. As per Onshore Order #1 requirements, the operator will submit an amendment to currently-approved Surface Use Plans via Sundry Notice Form 3160-5 before construction activities begin detailing:

- The source of all water used for construction, drilling, completion and fracing operations
- Any water haul routes that may be used
- Municipal water provider, the permit number or a copy of the water right permit being use for each water source http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/oil_and_gas/Onshore_Order_no1.html, section 2e for more information)

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS & CONFORMANCE WITH THE LAND USE PLAN

This decision is in compliance with the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission rules for Exploration and Production wastes, the Endangered Species Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act. It is also in conformance with the 1997 White River Record of Decision/Approved Resource Management Plan.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Internal scoping was initiated when the project was presented to the White River Field Office (WRFO) interdisciplinary team on 5/17/2011. External scoping was conducted by posting this project on the WRFO's on-line National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) register on 6/8/2011.

RATIONALE

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act. Less than 5 additional acres of disturbance will occur on an oil and gas leasehold with less than 150 acres of visual disturbance.

ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES

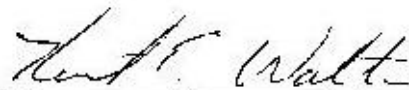
State Director Review

Under regulations addressed in 43 CFR 3165.3(b), any adversely affected party that contests a decision of the Authorized Officer may request an administrative review, before the State Director, either with or without oral presentation. Such request, including all supporting documentation, shall be filed in writing with the BLM Colorado State Office at 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215 within 20 business days of the date such decision was received or considered to have been received. Upon request and showing of good cause, an extension may be granted by the State Director. Such review shall include all factors or circumstances relevant to the particular case.

Appeal

Any party who is adversely affected by the decision of the State Director after State Director review, under 43 CFR 3165.3(b), of a decision may appeal that decision to the Interior Board of Land Appeals pursuant to the regulations set out in 43 CRF Part 4.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:



Field Manager

DATE SIGNED:

08/30/2011